

Department of Licensing
Washington State Motorcycle Safety Advisory Board Meeting
August 29, 2005

Board Members Present:

- Larry Walker
- Bruce Santy
- Jim Wihlborg
- Patrick Barnes
- Tom Wolfe

A meeting was convened to discuss the issue of the large number of military members that are being trained at state resident tuition with the Motorcycle Program funding the cost of the training. This program is mandated by the military and the military is required by DOD Instructions to fund the entire cost of the training. The current practice is for the military to reimburse the cost of the training to the member. The ultimate result is that Washington motorcyclists are funding a mandatory training program for the military, which reduces the number of training slots available to local residents.

Solutions:

Legislation will be submitted next spring to require non-resident military members to pay the full cost of training. This action will open more training places in classes. If such a change is submitted, a courtesy letter will be forwarded to the Commander at Ft Lewis informing him of the change.

There was also discussion on the potential for Ft. Lewis to conduct training on the base under contract to DOL. Carl explained that he has met with the base safety officer on two occasions and Bret Tkacs from Puget Sound Safety, has met with them on multiple occasions attempting to arrive at a solution. There was no interest in the base conducting their own training in any of the visits.

Harley Davidson Update

Carl briefed the Board that Corporate Harley Davidson had called approximately one month ago and wanting to set up a meeting with Carl at State Motorcycle Safety Administrators (SMSA) meeting in Bismarck ND in August. Approximately two weeks after that call, Jim Boltz, Lynnwood Cycle Barn HD wanting an emergency meeting with him and all the HD dealers from the Puget Sound area in Washington before the Bismarck meeting. Carl was unable to attend the SMSA meeting but the local dealers have requested a meeting to determine what it will take to get a waiver of testing for an endorsement for the Riders Edge program.

SMSA Assessment Review

The Washington State Motorcycle Safety Advisory Board was tasked by the NHTSA Assessment in 2001 with the following item:

- Task the Advisory Board with creating a subcommittee to address Public Information & Education efforts or revise the structure of the board to include a requirement for a member with expertise in PI&E. Ensure that PI&E is included on the agenda for each Advisory Board meeting.

Questions asked:

This is the public awareness.

How much of the funding?

Can we out source this to a college?

The cost would be low.

Would the WSP committee looking at Motorcycle Fatalities with some sort of partnership work?

Are the new FTE's going to have room in their schedule for this?

Carl handed out a copy of the last version of the WMSP strategic plan that the Board worked on in 2003. To date, the Program is on track with the projections established in the Strategic Plan.

DOL web page is <http://www.wa.gov/dol/drivers/wmsp.htm>

WMSP Coordinator, Carl Spurgeon 1-800-962-9010 choice 9